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# Economic and Social Council

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**Commission for Social Development**
**Forty-third session**
9-18 February 2005
Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda*
**Programme questions and other matters: United Nations Research Institute for Social Development**

## Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

### Note by the Secretary-General**

1. As set out in paragraph 9 of document E/CN.5/2005/4, the Commission will be called upon at its forty-third session to nominate three new members to the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development to replace those members referred to in paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of that document for a four-year term expiring on 30 June 2009.

2. Two new candidates with appropriate qualifications have been identified for nomination to membership of the Board. Biographical information is contained in the annex to the present note.

* E/CN.5/2005/1.

** As a result of the extensive consultation process required, the current document is being submitted after the deadline established for consideration by the Commission for Social Development.

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# Annex

## Biographical information

### Mr. Christian Comeliau

**Personal data**

Nationality: Belgium, France.

Date of birth: 1937.

**Present position**

Guest professor at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, since 1980.

**Education**

PhD, Law, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, 1960.

PhD, Economics, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium,1960.

**Experience**

Assistant, Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, Catholic University, Louvain, Belgium, 1961-1962.

Researcher, subsequently full Professor, Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, National University of Zaïre, Kinshasa, 1962-1974.

Country economist at the World Bank, Washington, D.C., 1974-1976.

Economist at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development ("Interfutures" project and the Development Centre), Paris, 1977-1981.

Economist at the Commissariat Général du Plan, Paris, 1981-1990.

Full Professor of Development Economics at the Institut Universitaire d'Études du Développement, Geneva, 1990-2003.

Occasional consultant for the World Bank, the United Nations and the French Ministry of Cooperation, since 1980.

## Ms. Asma Jahangir

**Personal data**

Nationality: Pakistan.

Date of birth: 1952.

**Present position**

Advocate, Supreme Court of Pakistan, since 1992.

Advocate, Lahore High Court, Punjab, Pakistan, since 1982.

Partner, AGHS Law Associates, since 1980.

Director, AGHS Legal Aid Cell, Lahore, Pakistan, since 1984.

**Education**

Honorary doctorates in law from: Amherst College, United States of America, 2003; Queen's University, Canada, 1998; University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, 1998.

Bachelor of Law, Punjab University, Lahore, Pakistan, 1978.

Bachelor of Arts, Kinnaird College, Lahore, Pakistan, 1974.

**Experience**

Professor of Law at Quaid-e-Azam Law College, Lahore, teaching constitutional law.

Consultancy on judicial reforms in Pakistan with the Asian Development Bank and on judicial reforms in Bangladesh with the World Bank.

Led civil society initiatives for peacebuilding in South Asia.

Columnist for national and regional newspapers.

Member of the Commission of Enquiry for Women, established by Government of Pakistan, 1994-1997.

**Other affiliations**

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, since 2004.

Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Commission on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, 1998-2004.

Commissioner, International Commission of Jurists, Geneva, since 1998.

Council Member, Minority Rights Group International, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 2002-2004.

Executive Member, International Crisis Group, United States of America, since 2002.

Chief Economist Advisory Council Member of World Bank, since 2001.

Founder Member of Women's Action Forum, Pakistan, since 1985.

Co-Chair, South Asia for Human Rights, since 2000.

Honorary Board Member of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, since 1987.

Board Member, Commonwealth Lawyers' Association, London, 1997-2002.

Board Member, Interights, London, 1997-2002.

Member, International Executive Council, Defence for Children International Board, Geneva, 1996-2001.

Board Member, Asia Pacific Forum on Women Law and Development, Kuala Lumpur, 1988-2000.

Executive Member, Punjab Bar Council, 1998-2003.

Director, International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, Montreal, Canada, 1990-1993.

Chairperson, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, 1993-1999.

Executive Committee Member, Lahore High Court Bar Association, Pakistan, 1985-1987.

Council Member, Law Association for Asia and the Pacific, Sydney, Australia, 1985-1987.

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